

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A storage system connected to a computer comprising:  
a plurality of logical units comprising disk devices,  
wherein said storage system receives an instruction  
from said computer to turn on or off a disk device corresponding  
to said logical unit; and

wherein, based on said instruction, said storage system  
turns on or off the disk device corresponding to the logical  
unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other  
logical units.

2. The storage system of claim 1 comprising:

a first logical unit; and  
a second logical unit,

wherein said storage system receives an instruction  
from said computer to turn on a disk device corresponding  
to said second logical unit when writing data to be written  
to said first logical unit from said computer to said second  
logical unit;

wherein said storage system turns on a disk device  
corresponding to said second logical unit;

wherein said storage system writes data from said first  
logical unit to said second logical unit;

wherein, upon completion of writing data to said second  
logical unit from said first logical unit, said storage system  
receives an instruction from said computer to turn off said

disk device corresponding to said second logical unit; and  
wherein said storage system turns off said disk device  
corresponding to said second logical unit.

3. The storage system of claim 2,

wherein said storage system is connected to a backup  
server;

wherein said storage system receives an instruction  
from said computer to turn on a disk device corresponding  
to said second logical unit before said backup server reads  
data from said second logical unit;

wherein said storage system turns on said disk device  
corresponding to said second logical unit independently of  
disk devices corresponding to the other logical units;

wherein, upon completion of reading data from said  
second logical unit to said backup server, said storage system  
receives an instruction from said computer to turn off said  
disk device corresponding to said second logical unit; and

wherein said storage system turns off said disk device  
corresponding to said second logical unit independently of  
disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

4. The storage system of claim 1,

wherein, when said computer writes or reads data, said  
storage system receives an instruction to turn on or off a  
disk device corresponding to a logical unit storing data to  
be written or read from said computer; and

wherein said storage system turns on or off said disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

5. The storage system of claim 4 comprising:

a first logical unit; and

a second logical unit,

wherein said storage system receives an instruction from said computer to turn on a disk device corresponding to said first logical unit for writing data;

wherein said storage system turns on said disk device corresponding to said logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical unit;

wherein, while said computer is writing data to said first logical unit, said storage system receives an instruction from said computer to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit for writing data next;

wherein said storage system turns on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units;

wherein, while said computer completes writing data to said first logical unit and is writing data to said second logical unit, said storage system receives an instruction from said computer to turn off said disk device corresponding to said first logical unit; and

wherein said storage system turns off said disk device corresponding to said first logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

6. The storage system of claim 1,

wherein said computer is connected to a management terminal;

wherein said storage system receives from said computer to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to a logical unit specified by a user from said management terminal; and

wherein said storage system turns on or off said disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

7. A computer system comprising:

a computer; and

a storage system,

wherein said storage system has a plurality of logical units comprising disk devices;

wherein said computer provides said storage system with an instruction to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to said logical unit; and

wherein said storage system receives said instruction; and

wherein said storage system turns on or off said disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said

instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

8. The computer system of claim 7,

wherein said storage system has a first logical unit and a second logical unit;

wherein said computer instructs said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit when said storage system writes data to be written to said first logical unit from said computer to said second logical unit;

wherein said storage system turns on said disk device corresponding to said second logical unit;

wherein said storage system writes data to said second logical unit from said first logical unit;

wherein, upon completion of writing data to said second logical unit from said first logical unit, said computer instructs said storage system to turn off said disk device corresponding to said second logical unit; and

wherein said storage system turns off said disk device corresponding to said second logical unit.

9. The computer system of claim 8,

wherein said computer system has a backup server connected to said storage system;

wherein said computer instructs said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical

unit;

wherein said storage system turns on said disk device corresponding to said second logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units;

wherein said computer instructs said storage system to back up data;

wherein said storage system backs up data from said second logical unit to said backup server;

wherein, upon completion of reading data from said second logical unit to said backup server, said computer instructs said storage system to turn off said disk device corresponding to said second logical unit; and

wherein said storage system turns off said disk device corresponding to said second logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

10. The computer system of claim 7,

wherein, when writing or reading data, said computer instructs said storage system to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to a logical unit storing data to be written or read;

wherein said storage system receives said instruction; and

wherein said storage system turns on or off said disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

11. The computer system of claim 10,

wherein said storage system has a first logical unit and a second logical unit;

wherein said computer instructs said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said first logical unit for writing data;

wherein said storage system turns on said disk device corresponding to said logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical unit;

wherein, while writing data to said first logical unit in said storage system, said computer instructs said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit for writing data next;

wherein said storage system turns on said disk device corresponding to said second logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units;

wherein, while said computer completes writing data to said first logical unit and is writing data to said second logical unit, said computer instructs said storage system to turn off said disk device corresponding to said first logical unit; and

wherein said storage system turns off said disk device corresponding to said first logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

12. The computer system of claim 7,

wherein said computer is connected to a management terminal;

wherein said computer instructs said storage system to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to a logical unit specified by a user from said management terminal;

wherein said storage system receives said instruction; and

wherein said storage system turns on or off said disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

13. The computer system of claim 7,

wherein said computer is connected to a management terminal which accepts input from a user;

wherein, when receiving an instruction to protect data stored in a logical unit, said computer instructs said storage system to turn off a disk device corresponding to said logical unit;

wherein, when receiving an instruction not to protect data stored in a logical unit, said computer instructs said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said logical unit;

wherein said storage system receives said instruction; and

wherein said storage system turns on or off said disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said



instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

14. A computer program product for a computer system comprising a computer and a storage system having a plurality of logical units comprising disk devices, said computer program product comprising:

- a code for said computer to provide said storage system with an instruction to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to said logical unit;

- a code for said storage system to receive said instruction;

- a code for said storage system to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units; and

- a computer readable storage medium for storage codes.

15. A computer program product of claim 14,

- wherein said storage system has a first logical unit and a second logical unit; and

- wherein said computer program product further comprises:

- a code for said storage system to receive an instruction from a computer to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit when writing data to be written to said first logical unit from said computer to said second

logical unit;

a code for said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit;

a code for said storage system to receive an instruction from said computer to turn off a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit upon completion of writing data to said second logical unit from said first logical unit; and

a code for said storage system to turn off a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit.

16. A computer program products of claim 15,

wherein said computer system has a backup server connected to said storage system; and

wherein said computer program product further comprises:

a code for said computer to instruct said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit;

a code for said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units;

a code for said computer to instruct said storage system to back up data;

a code for said storage system to back up data from said second logical unit to said backup server;

a code for said computer to instruct said storage system

to turn off a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit upon completion of reading data from said second logical unit to said backup server; and

a code for said storage system to turn off a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

17. A computer program product of claim 14,

wherein said computer program product further comprises:

a code for said computer, when writing or reading data, to instruct said storage system to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to a logical unit storing data to be written or read;

a code for said storage system to receive said instruction; and

a code for said storage system to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said instruction.

18. A computer program product of claim 17,

wherein said storage system has a first logical unit and a second logical unit; and

wherein said computer program product further comprises:

a code for said computer to instruct said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said first logical

unit for writing data;

a code for said storage system to turn on said disk device corresponding to said logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical unit;

a code for said computer to instruct said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit for writing data next while writing data to said first logical unit in said storage system;

a code for said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said second logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units;

a code for said computer to instruct said storage system to turn off said disk device corresponding to said first logical unit while said computer completes writing data to said first logical unit and is writing data to said second logical unit; and

a code for said storage system to turn off said disk device corresponding to said first logical unit independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

19. A computer program product of claim 14,

wherein said computer is connected to a management terminal; and

wherein said computer program product further comprises:

a code for said computer to instruct said storage system to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to a logical

unit specified by a user from said management terminal;

a code for said storage system to receive said instruction; and

a code for said storage system to turn on or off said disk device corresponding to said logical unit based on said instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.

20. A computer program product of claim 14,

wherein said computer is connected to a management terminal which accepts input from a user; and

wherein said computer program product further comprises:

a code for said computer, when receiving an instruction to protect data stored in a logical unit, to instruct said storage system to turn off a disk device corresponding to said logical unit;

a code for said computer, when receiving an instruction not to protect data stored in a logical unit, to instruct said storage system to turn on a disk device corresponding to said logical unit;

a code for said storage system to receive said instruction; and

a code for said storage system to turn on or off a disk device corresponding to a logical unit based on said instruction independently of disk devices corresponding to the other logical units.